

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0869

S E C R E T BUENOS AIRES 2736

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR HILL

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AR

SUBJECT: ALLEGED PLOT TO DISRUPT PROJECTED VISIT OF SECRETARY

REF: A. STATE 090502 AND B. STATE 090538

1. WE CONCUR THAT THE THREAT TO AMERICAN PERSONNEL BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER THE SECRETARY'S VISIT REMAINS UNDIMINISHED. THIS IS WHY WE WERE SO PLEASED TO RECEIVE YOUR NIACT 090538, ONCE AGAIN HELPING US WITH OUR PROBLEMS.

2. WE ARE NOW IN A POSITION TO GIVE YOU THE LATEST DIRECTIVES ISSUED HERE, WHICH WILL BE CARRIED OUT APRIL 21:

A. THE EMBASSY WILL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC APRIL 21 THROUGH 25.

B. A REDUCED EMBASSY STAFF, INCLUDING LOCALS, WILL BE AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT YOUR, POPPER'S, AND THE SECRETARY'S VISIT. THEY ALSO WILL BE IN A POSITION TO HANDLE URGENT PROBLEMS SUCH AS PROTECTION AND WELFARE AND EMERGENCY VISA CASES.

C. NON-ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL WILL REMAIN AT HOME DURING THE WEEK, EXCEPT THOSE WHO ARE DEEMED HIGH SECURITY RISKS, WHO WILL BE ORDERED TO MOTEVIDEO MONDAY ON TDY.

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D. APPROXIMATELY 20 FAMILIES ARE BEING ISSUED TDY ORDERS TO

MONTEVIDEO FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 21-27. THIS INCLUDES MILGROUP, THE CONSUL GENERAL, AND 4 HIGH RISK EMBASSY OFFICERS NOT ESSENTIAL TO THE SECRETARY'S VISIT.

E. ALL MEMBERS OF THE DAO STAFF ARE MOVING TO SHERATON HOTEL ON APRIL 21. TWELVE OTHER EMBASSY OR OTHER AGENCY OFFICERS WHOSE SERVICES ARE NEEDED DURING THE VISIT ARE LIKEWISE MOVING TO HOTELS, SOME TO THE PLAZA. WE APPRECIATE THAT USG WILL PAY EXPENSES FOR ALL PERSONNEL AND FAMILIES WHO WILL BE STAYING AT HOTELS.

F. PROTECTED SHUTTLE SERVICES BETWEEN CHANCERY AND HOTELS WILL BE PROVIDED ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS FOR THOSE WHO WILL BE WORKING AT CHANCERY.

3. WITH RESPECT TO PARA 2 (C) REFTEL B, A QUICK INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF CONTRACT GUARDS IS LIMITED BY THE NEED TO PROCESS EACH ADDITIONAL PERSON THROUGH A SECURITY CLEARANCE. CONSEQUENTLY, THE POST IS NOT ABLE TO AUGMENT CONTRACT GUARD FORCE ON SHORT NOTICE.

4. REGARDING AMBASSADOR POPPER'S VISIT, THE INCONSISTENCY OF DEPARTMENT'S POSITION IS OBVIOUS. GEORGE S. BECKETT, RSO AT THIS POST, HAS INFORMED ME THAT HE IS OPPOSED TO THIS VISIT FOR SECURITY REASONS. HE HAS REQUESTED THAT THE PRESENCE OF POPPER IN ARGENTINA, ALONG WITH THE SECRETARY, BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF A/SY.

5. THE EMBASSY FAMILY HAS BEEN TOLD THAT THESE SECURITY PRECAUTIONS WERE DIRECTED BY DEPARTMENT AND HAVE MY SUPPORT.
HILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PHYSICAL SECURITY, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, MINISTERIAL VISITS, THREATS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BUENOS02736
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750138-0627
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750433/aaaabeyl.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 090502, 75 AND STATE 090538
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <03 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGED PLOT TO DISRUPT PROJECTED VISIT OF SECRETARY
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AR, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006